

## What Does Texas State Pool Code Say About Calculating Maximum Number of Users in Pools/Spas?

Commercial swimming pools in Texas must comply with Title 25 of the Texas Administrative Code Chapter 265, also known as the Texas State Pool Rules.

These rules provide guidance for calculating the maximum number of users allowed in a commercial swimming pool or spa at any time (AKA maximum user load). **The maximum user load is the same calculation regardless of the age of the swimming pool/spa.**

**The rules also require the maximum user load be posted for swimming pools/spas built after 10-01-1999.**

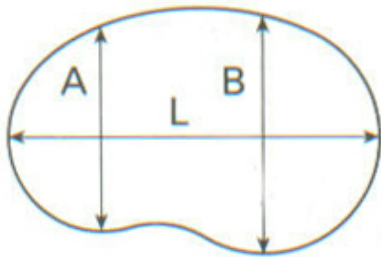
### How to Calculate Maximum User Load

- 1) Calculate the Surface Area for Shallow/Instructional/Beginning/Wading Areas.
  - a. "Shallow" is defined in the rules as less than 5 feet deep.
  - b. Measure the areas of the pool that are shallow and use the correct formula to calculate the surface area in square feet for the shallow areas of the pool.
  - c. Divide this number you found in step "b" by 15. Round this number down (for example, if the result is 2.6, the maximum number of persons allowed is 2 persons). Record the result as the maximum number of persons allowed in shallow areas of the pool.
- 2) Calculate the Surface Area for Deep Areas (Not Including Diving Area).
  - a. If a pool/spa does not have a specific diving area, measure the areas of the pool that are deep (greater than 5 feet deep) and use the correct formula to calculate the surface area in square feet for the deep areas of the pool.
  - b. Divide the number you found in step "a" by 25. Round this number down (for example, if the result is 2.6, the maximum number of persons allowed is 2 persons). Record the result as the maximum number of persons allowed in deep areas of the pool.
- 3) Calculate the Surface Area for Diving Areas
  - a. Measure the areas of the pool that are specifically identified as diving areas (i.e. diving envelope) and use the correct formula to calculate the surface area in square feet for the diving areas of the pool.
  - b. Divide the number you found in step "a" by 300. Round this number down (for example, if the result is 2.6, the maximum number of persons allowed is 2 persons). Record the result as the maximum number of persons allowed in diving areas of the pool.
- 4) Add together the numbers you calculated in Steps 1, 2, and 3. This will provide you with the maximum number of users allowed in the swimming pool/spa.

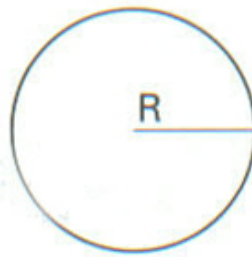
**Helpful Formulas:**

**Pool Sizing**

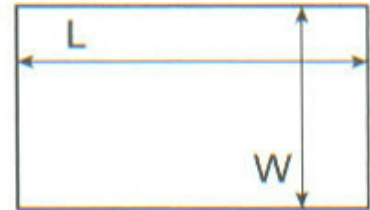
Determine your pool's surface area in square feet:



Area = (A+B) x L x .45



Area = R x R x 3.14



Area = L x W

**Texas State Pool Code Figure for Calculating Maximum Load:**

Maximum Number of Users in Pool at Any Time

Shallow/Instructional or Beginning or Wading Areas	Deep Area (Not Including Diving Area)	Diving Area (per each diving board)
15 sq. ft. water surface area per user	25 sq. ft. water surface area per user	300 sq. ft. water surface area per user

**Where to Find the Codes:**

- Maximum User Load for Pre-10/01/1999 Pools: 25 TAC 265.184(n)  
(Page 20 State Pool Rules)
- Maximum User Load for Post-10/01/1999 Pools: 25 TAC 265.185(e)  
(Page 23 State Pool Rules)
- Requirement to Post Load Limits for Post-1999: 25 TAC 165.203(g)  
(Page 61 State Pool Rules)
- Figure to Calculate Maximum User Load: 25 TAC 265.184(n)(1)  
Page 68 State Pool Rules